

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 SP-02 PM-05
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AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY
USDELMC PRIORITY
USCINCEUR PRIORITY
CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY
CINCUSAFE PRIORITY
USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY
DIRNSA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 6708

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MASS, GR,US
SUBJ: U.S.-GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION DISCUSSIONS: FINAL STEPS
TOWARD INITIALING

REF: ATHENS 6652 (DTG 181456Z JUL 77)

1. CHARGE MILLS AND CHRYSOSPETHIS, ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS, WILL MEET ON THURSDAY, JULY 21, TO WORK OUT THE NECESSARY DETAILS LEADING TO A FINAL PUBLIC ROUND, INITIALING OF DCA TEXT, AND PRESS COMMUNIQUE DURING "THE LAST FEW DAYS IN JULY." OUR GOAL WILL BE TO COMPLETE THIS ENTIRE PROCESS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE BUT NOT LATER THAN JULY 28, THE EARLIEST FIRM DATE ATTRIBUTED TO FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS. WE INTEND TO TRY TO MOVE THIS
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"FIRM" DATE AS FAR FORWARD AS POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, EVEN WITH THE BEST OF INTENTION AND EFFORT ON BOTH SIDES, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT INITIALING COULD OCCUR BEFORE MONDAY, JULY 25.

2. IF WASHINGTON COMMENTS ON OUR REVISION TO THE GREEK DRAFT COMMUNIQUE ARE RECEIVED IN TIME (SEPTEL), WE WILL ALSO DISCUSS THIS TOPIC AT THE JULY 21 MEETING AND MAKE AN EFFORT TO REACH

AGREEMENT ON TEXT IN TIME TO FORWARD IT TO WASHINGTON AND RECEIVE A RESPONSE BY OPENING OF BUSINESS MONDAY, JULY 25.

3. WE ALSO INTEND TO PRESS THE GREEKS FOR A FAVORABLE REACTION TO OUR PREVIOUS SUGGESTION THAT THEY PUBLICLY ANNOUNCE THE FINAL ROUND IN ADVANCE OF ITS ACTUAL BEGINNING. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT VIEW THIS AS AN ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENT TO ACHIEVE OUR BASIC GOAL OF PUBLICLY CONCLUDING THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

4. AT THE REQUEST OF THE GREEKS, AND AS A PREREQUISITE FOR INITIALING, THE WORKING GROUP HAS UNDERTAKEN A LINE BY LINE REVIEW OF THE PLETHORA OF DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DCA TO CORRECT ANY "EDITORIAL DISCREPANCIES" IN THE WORKING LANGUAGE, (I.E. ENGLISH) TEXT. (GREEKS HAVE STATED THAT THEY HAVE DETECTED "A FEW-). WE WILL OF COURSE REPORT ALL SUCH CHANGES BEFORE INITIALING AND REQUEST WASHINGTON APPROVAL OF THOSE WHICH COULD IMPACT ON SUBSTANCE. WE REGARD IT AS ESSENTIAL THAT OUR WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVES REMAIN IN ATHENS TO HELP CARRY OUT THIS PROCESS AND TO SNUFF OUT ANY POTENTIAL LAST MINUTE EFFORTS BY THE GREEKS TO INTRODUCE SUBSTANTIAL POLICY OR LEGAL CHANGES IN THE AGREED TEXTS BETWEEN NOW AND INITIALING.

MILLS

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